

**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 5**

DATE: July 19, 2002

SUBJECT: Reports of Significant Developments and Activities
Ending on July 12, 2002

FROM: William E. Muno, Director
Superfund Division

TO: Thomas V. Skinner
Regional Administrator

Bharat Mathur
Deputy Regional Administrator

The activities listed below are organized by site-specific activities, training/conferences, and stakeholder feedback:

SITE-SPECIFIC ACTIVITIES

**Consent Order Signed (Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study),
Ford Road Industrial Landfill Site, Elyria, Ohio**

On July 2, 2002, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) signed an administrative order on consent with potentially responsible parties (PRPs) to conduct a remedial investigation and feasibility study (RI/FS) for the Ford Road Industrial Landfill site. The PRPs agreeing to conduct the investigation include Browning Ferris Industries of Ohio, Inc., Goodrich Corporation, PolyOne Corporation, Ford Motor Company, General Motors Corporation, Chevron Environmental Management Company, and Kewanee Industries, Inc. The site is located on the northern edge of Elyria, Ohio, and is bordered by Ford Road to the west, the Black River to the east, a ravine to the north, and rural land to the south. The PRPs will submit an RI/FS work plan within 60 days.

Contacts: Matt Ohl (312-886-4442)
Robert Thompson (312-353-6700)

**Treatment Systems Evaluated, Wayne Waste Oil Superfund Site,
Columbia City, Indiana**

On July 11, 2002, a meeting at the Wayne Waste Oil Superfund site in Columbia City, Indiana, took place to evaluate the soil and groundwater treatment systems. The U.S. EPA remedial project manager, Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) project manager, and various project representatives discussed adding groundwater recovery and soil vapor extraction wells to the current site treatment system. The additions are based on

monitoring data which shows adjustments may be needed to optimize the efficiency of the remedy. The private party group contractor is scheduled to send a proposal to the agencies by September.

The Wayne Waste Oil Superfund site (also known as Wayne Reclamation) is approximately 30 acres in size, and includes a municipal waste landfill, groundwater pump and treatment system, air sparging system, slurry wall, and soil vapor extraction system. The Wayne Waste Oil site is currently in operation and maintenance.

Contact: Jeff Gore (312-886-6552)

TRAINING/CONFERENCES

CANUSLANT 2002 Spill Response Exercise, St. Andrews, New Brunswick, Canada

On June 24-28, 2002, the regular biennial exercise of the Canada/U.S. Atlantic (CANUSLANT) Operational Supplement of the Canadian and U.S. Coast Guard's Joint Marine Pollution Contingency Plan was conducted at St. Andrews, New Brunswick, Canada. The Plan is for response to oil and hazardous material spills along the Atlantic border between Canada and the United States. Chris Christenson of the Oil Planning and Response Section served as both a facilitator and evaluator. The exercise consisted of a morning tabletop exercise followed by five separate breakout sessions that same afternoon, as well as the following morning. The tabletop scenario consisted the grounding of an oil supply tanker on Deer Island and the discharge of product into the Bay of Fundy. The resultant release would have impacted waters and land of both Canada and the United States. The five breakout sessions each discussed several issues. The five groups were for Joint Response Team issues, On-Scene Commander/Coordinator issues, Joint Environmental Section issues, Community issues, and Public Information issues. There were 23 separate Canadian Federal and provincial agencies represented and 17 separate Federal and State agencies from the United States. Two international organizations were also participating, the International Tanker Owners Pollution Federation and the Roosevelt Campobello International Park. A full report will be prepared jointly by the Canadian Coast Guard Maritimes Region and the U.S. Coast Guard's First District.

Contact: Chris Christenson (312-353-6303)

Planning Strategies Meeting (2004 Plant Closing), Case-New Holland Combine Plant, East Moline, Illinois

On June 19, 2002, Brownfields Project Manager Jane Neumann, met with about 25 others in East Moline, Illinois, to begin planning

strategies to prevent the creation of a major brownfields site in East Moline when the Case-New Holland Combine Plant closes in 2004. Others taking part in the brainstorming session included the mayor, aldermen, and City staff; State legislators; staff from the office of Representative Lane Evans; brownfields staff from the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (Illinois EPA); staff from the Illinois Department of Commerce and Community Affairs; representatives of development organizations in the Quad Cities, including for-profit and not-for-profit groups; bankers; and, an environmental consultant currently working on a brownfields project for the City. City officials have not yet had a formal meeting with Case-New-Holland corporate executives about planning for reuse of the site.

In the wake of this strategy session, they will initiate such a meeting and ask to get a thorough briefing from company environmental staff about the known environmental issues on the site. Brownfields staff advised the City to become familiar with the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) status of the facility and to inquire about the \$79 million reserve to fund historic cleanup liabilities that is mentioned on their web page. Possibilities and limitations of using U.S. EPA brownfields grant funding in the future to either assess or cleanup the 130-acre site along the Mississippi River was discussed. The City plans to hold community forums this year to help draw out ideas for reuse options from citizens.

Contact: Jane Neumann (312-353-0123)

STAKEHOLDER FEEDBACK

Words of Appreciation, Staff of Senator Richard J. Durbin, Chicago, Illinois

In a voice mail message on July 1, 2002, Catherine Potter, staff of Senator Richard Durbin, expressed her appreciation to Mary Canavan, James Mayka, Thomas Marks, Doug Zamastil, and Debra Potter, as follows:

In response to Senator Durbin's letter inquiring about the status of Superfund sites in the State of Illinois, she stated the "...Region 5 response was an excellent job of pulling together all of the requested information...it was a comprehensive set of documentation...." She asked Mary Canavan to express her

appreciation to the staff responsible for compiling the information and preparing the response.

Contacts: Mary Canavan (312-353-3018)
James Mayka (312-353-9229)
Thomas Marks (312-353-6591)
Debra Potter (312-353-6318)
Doug Zamastil (312-886-0650)

Words of Thanks (Ginny Narsete), Anthrax Crisis, Washington, D.C.

In an e-mail, dated July 9, 2002, Charles Vidich, United States Postal Service (USPS) person who was in charge of the Anthrax Unified Command in the District of Columbia, expressed thanks to Ginny Narsete, Public Affairs, Emergency Response Branch, as follows:

"Ginny:

I saw your "ON MESSAGE" article. It reminded me of how much I learned from you last fall.

Speaking on behalf of the USPS, we were grateful for your guidance and support during the anthrax crisis. You appeared virtually out of nowhere to support us - even when we didn't know what support we really needed. It was incredible. I wish the federal government could always work that well...."

Contact: Ginny Narsete (312-886-4359)

Letter of Appreciation (Mark Durno), Workshop, Anthrax Response

In an e-mail, dated July 15, 2002, Charles Vidich, U.S. Postal Service, Chair, Workshop Planning Committee; and, Karen Burgan, U.S. EPA, Vice Chair, Workshop Planning Committee, expressed gratitude to Mark Durno, as follows:

"Dear Mark:

On behalf of the National Coordinating Council of the National Response Team, we thank you for your participation in last week's Workshop, "Anthrax Response: A Bilateral Session for Federal Civilian and Military Response Agencies." Your participation in this workshop demonstrated that the spirit of interagency cooperation is alive and well. Hopefully, this workshop will increase the level of communication and collaboration amongst many different federal agencies involved with bio-terrorism response planning.

... we also received very positive feedback from the workshop participants on the presentations given during the Environmental

Sampling and Analysis session. Indeed, 85% of all the participants rated your session as very good or excellent...

Your willingness to participate and make this workshop successful is appreciated by all of us...."

Contact: Mark Durno (440-250-1743)

Words of Appreciation (Bill Bolen), Homeland Security Needs

In an e-mail, dated July 11, 2002, Judy Davis, Director of the Office of Acquisition Management in U.S. EPA Headquarters, expressed gratitude to Bill Bolen, Emergency Response Branch, as follows:

"Bill:

Thanks for inviting me to meet with the removal managers today. Once again, I really appreciate your efforts to build bridges between our respective communities. My sense is that we need much more direct communication like we had today, and I'm confident we can get there. Your skills and efforts to do just that are quite valuable to the Agency. We need a lot more folks like you and Rob Edgeton who can bring diverse viewpoints together to find workable solutions to our homeland security needs!!"

Contact: Bill Bolen (312-353-6316)

Words of Thanks (Debra Potter and Andy Anderson), CERCLIS & the Budget Process, Chicago, Illinois

In an e-mail, dated July 12, 2002, Willie Griffin expressed thanks to Debra Potter and Basil "Andy" Anderson, as follows:

"Hi Deb and Andy,

I would like to thank you for making me feel welcome in Region 5. I received a wealth of information concerning CERCLIS and the budget process. All of which is information I can use in order to help Mike Cullen with the enhancements he wants to make to the CERCLIS financial and RPM screens. Thanks again Deb, for all of the preparation you put into making the meeting productive...."

Contacts: Debra Potter (312-353-6318)
Basil "Andy" Anderson (312-886-4699)

Letter of Appreciation, Mayslake Forest Preserve, Oak Brook, Illinois

A thank you letter was received by the Emergency Enforcement and Support Section (EESS) as a follow-up to the June 20, 2002,

volunteer work day at the Mayslake Forest Preserve:

"On behalf of the Forest Preserve District of DuPage County, I would like to thank you and the other EPA employees who joined us for a nature workday yesterday. You really had a hard working group and I'm hoping that you found as much value in the activity as we did! Thanks to your employee volunteers, more open space is available to allow the native plants to grow and thrive. Progress is being made to return this area back to its natural health. We are so grateful for your help to restore biodiversity to these unique forest preserves!"

EESS helped to clear a large wetland/prairie of buckthorn and other invasive growth. Not only was the day good for the comradery of the Section, the work was clearly beneficial to the environment at Mayslake. The Forest Preserve District of DuPage County was very appreciative of the work that EESS did, and is hopeful that more U.S. EPA employees will volunteer in the future.

Contacts: Debbie Regel (312-353-7632)
Maureen Spradlin (630-933-7200)

cc: Marianne Horinko (OSWER)
Barry Breen (OECA)
Steve Luftig (OSWER)
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Mike Cook (OERR)
Region 5 State Superfund Coordinators
Division/Office Directors
ORA State Coordinators
Regional Team Managers